(d) what steps have Government taken to help cotton growers in view of the fall in cotton prices;

(e) whether Government have taken any decision to export cotton; if not, by when will Government take the final decision to help cotton growers; and

(f) what is the quantity of cotton available with the Cotton Growers Marketing Federation of Maharashtra and as well as Markfed of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Some of the Cotton Growers' Marketing Federations and Growers' representatives have pleaded for release of further quotas for export of cotton during the current cotton season.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise. In any case, prices have not gone below last year's levels.

(d) and (e) In November, 1991, one lakh bales of Bengal Deshi were allowed to be exported. Government has permitted the Cotton Corporation of India to meet the requirements of cotton of some of our neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, in the context of bilateral arrangements, to the extent of up to 30,000 bales.

(f) The Maharashtra Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation is reported to be having a stock of about 5 lakh bales and the Gujarat Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation is stated to be in possession of a stock of about 1.50 lakh bales. These figures are based on the numbers mentioned in the representations of the above Federations.

Pending Projects in West Bengal

*74. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the projects of West Bengal pending with the Central Government proposed by Government of West Bengal for final clearance; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects and reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No project submitted by Government of West Bengal is pending in Planning Commission for investment approval.

(b) Does not arise.

Indigenous Procurement of Missile Materials

*75. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of news reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 17th June, 1992 that U.S. proposes to impose strict control over the export of missile components to many countries including India;

(b) if so, whether this will adversely affect our satellite programme; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take for procuring the missile materials indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Inspite of U.S. restrictions, it will by the Govt's endeavour to continue with the approved satellite programme during the 8th Plan period with minor adjustments. Appropriate long term measures for self reliance in this area are under way.

(c) As far as Integrated Guided Missiles Development Programme is concerned, 'PRITHVI' and 'AGNI' systems come under the purview of recently imposed US

restrictions. However, most of the components/sub-systems required for these systems have either been indigenised or are in the process of indigenisation. As regards the space programme, efforts have been initiated for indigenisation of electronic components and special materials.

Target Fixed for Setting up of Food Processing Industries

*76. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the target for setting up of food processing and agro-industries in the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(b) what is the detailed plan outlay, State-wise ;

(c) what would be the scope of employment ; and

(d) what is the share of Maharashtra in it and what special initiative would be given for economically backward regions of different States for setting up of food processing industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (d) While no physical target has been fixed for all types of food processing industries that are likely to be set up during the 8th Plan, it is estimated that the installed capacity of fruits and vegetable processing industries is likely to increase from 9.5 lakh tonnes to 20 lakh tonnes during the 8th Plan. About 200 numbers of resource specific deep sea fishing vessels would be introduced in the Indian EEZ for additional marine fish production of 3.5 lakh tonnes from the deep sea sources. In addition, it is envisaged that, amongst others, 15 integrated sheep, goat and rabbit meat processing plants, 30 integrated poultry processing plants, 10—15 fish processing plants and 250 rural food processing training centres are likely to be set up during the Plan period. Since majority of the food processing units are likely to come up in the private/joint/assisted sector and their location would depend upon the raw material availability, infrastructural and other factors, no State-wise distribution is indicated. With the projected total investment of approximately Rs. 12,000 crores in the food processing sector, estimated direct and indirect employment generation during the Plan period will be about one million man years. Besides the usual incentives provided by the Central and State Governments for setting up industries in the backward areas, plan schemes relating to assistance for establishing or upgrading fruits and vegetable processing units and schemes for development of pork processing, sheep, goat and rabbit meat processing and poultry and egg processing have been formulated. Higher amount of assistance is proposed to be provided from Central Government for such units being set up in the backward regions of the country.

संयुक्त सैनिक अभ्यास

*77. डा० **बापू कालदाते** : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कई देशों ने भारत के साथ मिलकर सैनिक अभ्यास करने का प्रस्ताव किया है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) भारत ने अब तक किन-किन देशों के साथ संयुक्त सैनिक अभ्यास किया है और उससे कितना लाभ पहुंचा है; और

(घ) निकट भविष्य में भारत किन-किन देशों के साथ संयुक्त सैनिक अभ्यास करने का विचार रखता है ?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री शरद पवार): (क) से (ग) अभी हाल के वर्षों में भारतीय नौसेना ने इंडोनेशिया, आस्ट्रेलिया, फ्रांस, ब्रिटेन तथा अमरीका